

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 17-41, and 45-49 are now presented for examination, with Claims 1, 19, 45, 46, 47 and 49 being independent. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 23, 30, 31, 32, and 37 have been amended to define more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, and Claims 4, 21, 24, 25, 26, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, and 41 have been amended to correct grammatical, typographical, and spelling errors, and/or to correct other minor matters. No change in scope is either intended or believed to be effected by at least the latter claim amendments, which have not been made for purposes relating to patentability. Claim 17 has been amended to depend from any one of Claims 1 to 12, and Claim 32 has been amended to depend from Claim 19. New Claims 45-49 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection.¹ Claims 13-16 and 42-44 have been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer of subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

¹/ Support for the added claim appears in the originally-filed specification. See, e.g., from page 30, line 6 to page 31, line 16 and from page 21, line 16 to page 23, line 20, and Fig. 11 (Claim 45). See also, e.g., from page 30, line 6 to page 31, line 16 (Claim 46), from page 21, line 16 to page 23, line 20 and Fig. 11 (Claim 48), and from page 21, line 16 to page 23, line 20 and Fig. 11 (Claim 49).

Applicants' attorney of record may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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